



April 2004

---

## Rome personnel honored for small business contracting

*by Fran Crumb, Information Directorate*

ROME, N.Y. — Four members of the Air Force Research Laboratory Information Directorate staff, as well as a representative of the federal Small Business Administration, have been presented with the 2003 Air Force Materiel Command (AFMC) Small Business Award for a team effort.

Honored March 24 during ceremonies at AFMC Headquarters, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, were: Janis Norelli, the directorate's small business specialist; Charles Flynn, a program manager in the Information and intelligence exploitation division; and Renee Arcuri and Alice Colasanti of the directorate's contracting division. Also cited as a team member was Ernest Ponton, business opportunity specialist in the Small Business Administration's Richmond, Va. office.

Team members were selected for the award based on their efforts to take an urgent Homeland Security requirement and, in three months, make a direct, small business award of \$24.9 million to Zel Technologies, LLC, of Hampton, Va. The five-year agreement, signed last May, will provide for research and development, life cycle management, testing, fielding, and user familiarization of the Automated Assistance with Intelligence Preparation of the Battlespace (A2IPB) software application.

AFMC has presented awards annually for outstanding contribution to the Small Business Program by an individual and by a unit; however, this is the first year that a contracting team has been honored.

The Information Directorate team will now be submitted for an Air Force-level award. @